

THE

THE

RANGE

GRAZING

RIDER

SERVICE

FRIENDS OF THE LANDA New Society for the Conservation of Soil, Rain, and Men

On March 22 and 23, 52 citizens of the United States from 38 different States met in Washington and organized a society to support and forward the unified conservation of "soil, rain, and man."

Included among the officers and sponsors of this organization are such well-known people as Morris Llewellyn Cooke, Russell Lord, Chas. W. Collier, J. N. (Ding) Darling, Rexford G. Tugwell, Stuart Chase, and many others.

Organized outside of the government, the new society will seek subscriptions and backers among citizens in general, both within the government and without. The aim is "non-profit, non-partisan, non-factional." Mr. Cooke, organizing chairman of the society, called attention to the need for conservation programs which recognize the essential unity of soil, water, forest, game, and human problems, and which are so coordinated as to advance as one.

"We have talked a great deal about conservation in this country lately", said Mr. Cooke, "we have barely begun to do something about it in a large, sensible, and connected way. The need to do more is urgent. The record is plain. Over vast areas we stand confronted with defaced landscapes, depleted water supplies, and an all but catastrophic degradation of soil and man. Soil misuse makes people poor. Soil displacement is followed by human displacement. The first shock of displacement is felt in the open country. But soon, as yields and trade fall off, it is also felt in the towns. Our land is all of one body. We, as a people, are all of one body. We all live on, or from, the soil."

Included on the first day's program was a discussion by Stuart Chase on the ravages of erosion. Mr. Chase used as an example a tennis court after a flash rain storm. His remarks are quoted, in part:

"I have a tennis court but I am not a farmer. I have a vegetable farm and a flower garden and orchard. I am the only one who takes care of the tennis court. It is, as you know, a level piece of ground, standard size, 120 feet by 60 feet, and that tennis court has two sizes of crushed rock under it. Then on top of that is native clay. That tennis court was

built with a very slight grade so that the water that falls on it will wash into a trough on the side. As you know who play on the tennis court, it is pretty flat, otherwise you can't play. We had quite a storm last October. It was a local storm and about 3 or 4 inches of rain came down. After that rain storm I went around to the trough and I took four wheelbarrows of clay from it that had washed off in a few hour's time.

"I think that gives you in a very unique way a view of how, if land is left unprotected, erosion can work. It paralyzed me to see the amount of top clay that had come off and when you extend that tennis court idea to hundreds of millions of plowed acres, the picture is pretty horrifying."

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ADJUSTMENT BY "HOME RULE"

"Home Rule on the Range" has again proved practicable and satisfactory in the adjustment of a range dispute heretofore existing between Joseph F. Livingston and the Grazing Service.

This adjustment of a dispute that dates back to 1935 was accomplished largely by round-table discussions involving the purposes of the Taylor Grazing Act and the plans of the Grazing Service for the future administration of Federal ranges.

The difficulties which for a time seemed to present an impassable obstacle to satisfactory settlement of this case have been cleared away, and it would appear that the Livingston case, as such, can now be filed away in the closed records of the Grazing Service.

Mr. Livingston has obtained by purchase several thousand acres of fine ranch property near Meeker, Colorado, which were formerly the land holdings of the Keystone Land and Cattle Corporation. This ranch is one of the oldest and best stock ranches in the Meeker country and well located in connection with winter range.

Needless to say the Grazing Service is happy that there has been an amicable adjustment of this case and we are glad that Mr. Livingston, for whose ability and enterprise we have a great deal of respect, has found it possible to obtain such a good outfit and to more firmly establish his live-stock operations.

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Does "cattle" mean cows only?

Answer: Cattle originally meant goods, chattels. The word is now commonly used to mean cows, bulls, and steers, but it also can be applied to sheep, goats, horses, mules, asses and swine.

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MODIFIED POLYCONIC PROJECTION

Big words, those! We had to call on the experts to find out what they mean! It's this: A method of adjusting maps to conform to the curvature of the earth's surface.

The drafting offices have lately been going places. The maps being produced by them now take into consideration the curvature of the earth.

Because of the pressing need for maps when the drafting offices were first established, it was decided at that time to lay out mapping areas on a quadrangle system of 4 townships by 8, on a flat surface, without reference to latitude or longitude. This type of quadrangle can be built up very rapidly and serves well as a work map.

Now that the basic map work has been accomplished, however, the drafting offices are making the necessary corrections and adjustments by the polyconic projection method to build maps of a round world instead of a flat one.

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A TRIBUTE TO OUR REMAINING OLD FASHIONED COWBOYS

By L. C. Montgomery
President Utah Cattle and Horse Growers Association
22nd Annual Convention, Salt Lake City, Utah

Time has thinned the ranks of those romantic pioneers of the range, yet we have a few of them left and to them we owe our honor and special greetings. The written as well as the legendary history of the western cowboy, playing up, yet telling the truth about his life and adventures, always tingles the pulse of the American youth. Youth loves those true tales of romance and adventure. Time will place a halo about these men, and add to their undying glory.

The pilgrim, the trapper, the pioneer, and the western cowboy, hold unique and well-earned places in the history and development of America. They are truly and quite exclusively American institutions.

Fleeing from the tyranny, dictatorship, and oppressions of the Old World, the pilgrim came to America and gave birth to our Democracy, on the rock-bound coast of New England. The American trapper blazed the trail for the pioneer. The pioneer made the roads, built the bridges, and established the out-posts of civilization and democracy in this entire country, while to the western cowboy, Nature and expediency delegated the task of filling the mouths of the people of America with their basic food. He was asked to pay little attention to himself, to create his own amusement, write his own songs and play his own accompaniments to them. He was to be his own doctor and nurse. The good earth was to be his bed and stars above, his blanket. No radio beams, beacons, or travel bureaus were to chart his way.

He has achieved an enviable class distinction in American life. His name personifies bravery, personal sacrifice, cheerfulness, and dependability. No class of our citizenry including those of the skilled arts and professions has written so indelibly into our lives the romance, tradition, and history of our country, as has the western cowboy.

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OUT OF THE MAIL BAG

WYOMING--The protest meetings held during the month of March indicated a definite lessening of serious objections to advisory board recommendations. In fact, in the majority of cases, those attending the protest meetings merely came for a slight change in their license or a request for a little additional time because of the comparatively early spring season. A departure from the old method of bringing in applicants only when their names were called in favor of an open meeting where requests and protests were heard by the public was highly successful. Protestants were given an idea of how cases are handled and in a number of instances left the meeting convinced that, after all, they are getting a square deal.

ARIZONA--Range conditions in all districts except Grazing District No. 3 continue to be unusually good, with sufficient rains during the month to assure good forage growth. The southern part of Grazing District No. 4 is blanketed with a bloom of golden poppies. District No. 2 has a heavy crop of annuals, with the hills and valleys a riot of color--the purple bloom of alfilaria, purple lupine, purple and red verbenas, golden marigold, red and yellow poppies, yellow mustard, grayish-green Indian wheat, red pentstemon, yellow asters, white and gold fried-egg flower, paloverde trees and creosote bright yellow. All of these flowers, with the exception of the creosote, furnish cow feed. While the range is extremely dry in District 3 at present, steers put on the range last November have made an average gain of approximately 250 pounds and are now being shipped to market.

OREGON--Under the Alkali Lake camp work program the Grazing Service cooperated with the Lake County Agent in sowing a 60-acre range experiment plat--30 acres were seeded to bulbous bluegrass and 30 acres to crested wheatgrass. The seed was broadcast on the sagebrush area near the Lakeview-Burns Highway in the vicinity of Coleman Hills. The seeding was done on March 18 and on March 19 a band of sheep was herded over the area in an effort to get the seed into the ground. The purpose of this work is to determine the effect of reseeding sagebrush land by this method.

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Safety is sanity in action. If you aren't careful today, tomorrow may never come.